

CLEVELAND MUSEUM WILL BE FIRST TO SHOW
CELEBRATED LATIN GOSPELS

The Cleveland Museum of Art will be the first Museum in the U. S. to exhibit the Helmarshausen Latin Gospels from the celebrated manuscript collection of C. W. Dyson Perrins. This important XII century Romanesque illuminated book was made in the Abbey of Helmarshausen, Germany and has been loaned by an anonymous private collector to the Museum for exhibition through June 30. The price paid for these Gospels was \$109,200.00, a record price for a single manuscript in recent years.

The manuscript is an exceptionally fine one of great beauty and is in an excellent state of preservation. It shows a rich and subtle use of burnished gold and silver, pastel blues, purple, green, salmon pink with occasional accents in other colors. The decorative pages begin with sixteen pages of the Eusebian canon tables (tables presenting a harmony of the Gospels in outline form by use of section numbers) in colorful architectural frames and continue with four full-page Evangelist portraits at the beginning of each Gospel. Each of these portraits faces an opposite and complementary page of text in gold and silver which is set within a richly patterned framework. A page will be turned periodically during the time of exhibition thus providing visitors a rare opportunity to become familiar with a magnificent medieval illuminated book.

Exhibited with this Gospel Book are two related single page miniatures from the Cleveland Museum's own collection. They will aid the student and the public in placing the Gospels in art historical context. While they make possible rewarding comparisons of pictorial style, decoration and script, they will also serve to accent

the individual flavor and uniqueness of the Gospel Book on loan. The Museum's own objects are:

- 1) Title page of Abbot Berno's 'Tonarius'
Dedicated to Archbishop Pilgrim of Cologne
German, Reichenau, ca. 1020-1030
Purchase from the J. H. Wade Fund

- 2) Miniature leaf: The Nativity (recto); St. Matthew (verso)
By the Co-worker of Hermann von Helmarshausen
German, Helmarshausen, 1170-1190
Purchase from the J. H. Wade Fund

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